



ASSOCIATION of
FISH & WILDLIFE
AGENCIES

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES POLICY COMMITTEE

Chair: vacant

Vice-Chair: Eric Gardner (WA)

Friday, March 8, 2019

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**84th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference
Room TBD/ Sheraton Denver Downtown, Denver, CO**

Agenda

- 8:00am Call to order, introductions, and review agenda –Eric Gardner, all
- 8:10am Review and adoption of minutes – All
- 8:15am Presentation: Assessing Decision-Risk in Species Range Maps and Distribution Models for Use in Conservation and Management – Thomas Edwards, Research Scientist and Assistant Leader; USGS, Cooperative Research Units Program (t.edwards@usu.edu)
- *ABSTRACT: All spatially-based (landscape-scale) management relies to some extent on knowledge of species distributions. At the level of the Endangered Species Act, distributions are clearly integral to ESA-related Federal Register documentation. Defensible distributions are equally integral to state-based Wildlife Action Plans, as well as being important to land management agencies such as the BLM, NPS, and USFS.*
 - Question and answer session
- 9:15am FWS Update: Using SDMs to improve current range maps for select listed species – Gary Frazer, FWS
- Why the FWS is doing this, the data being used, who is involved, and the desired outcome
 - Activities and plans for this year
 - Opportunity for collaboration with the states? Question and answer period.
- 9:25am Update and overview: White Paper on the "Best Management Practices for the Development and Application of Quantitative Models for the Conservation and Management of Rare Species," by the AFWA S&R Committee and WDPMeRs – Jonathan Mawdsley, AFWA.
- Modeling approaches for which these BMPs are intended include Species Distribution Models, Population Viability Analyses, climate vulnerability assessments, and climate envelope models.
- 9:35am Presentation: DOD/DOI Recovery and Sustainment Partnership – Cindy Dohner (Contractor) on behalf of Ryan Orndorff, DOD Environmental Programs, Director
- Discussion of state/DOD conservation opportunities and how to connect; question and answer

- 9:55am Break
- 10:10am Update on the status of Monarch conservation across the states
- Actions in the mid-America region – Ed Boggess, Claire Beck, Bill Moritz
 - Actions in the western region – TBD
- 10:25am Update: Conservation without Conflict –Cindy Dohner on behalf of Jimmy Bullock, Catch-a-Dream Foundation
- 10:35am Update on the FWS’s national listing workplan and other important information – Gary Frazer, FWS
- Are some of the SSA reviews, recovery plan updates, timelines, etc. available online and where?
 - What are the opportunities to coordination with states, and other partners, on listing workplans?
 - State discussion: How are states managing to stay engaged on the long list of petitioned and candidate species as well as status reviews, and recovery plan updates for listed species? – All
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- 11:05am Federal Partner updates: NMFS (Angela Somma), BLM (Kim Trip), USFS, USGS, NPS, NRCS, others?
- Information/timing of proposed ESA regulations issued July 2018, and next steps?
 - What are the impacts to federal agencies’ actions from FY2019 Congressional appropriations?
 - Ongoing and new priorities for federal agencies and what it means for existing/other T/E efforts?
- 11:40 Legislative Updates & Discussions
- Recovering America’s Wildlife Act – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
 - Natural Resources Management Act (S. 47)
 - Appropriations processes and deadlines: What are our needs and priorities?
 - Sharing Congressional appropriations requests – Steve Homer, ABC
- 11:55am Identify committee business between meetings and action items for the Business Meeting
- Webinar on the FWS’s PECE Policy: what is it and how does it work?
 - Interim States’ Roundtable discussion: successes, challenges, and needs?
- 12pm Adjourn, Eric Gardner, vice chair

Committee Charge:

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- *Review procedural or categorical problems affecting threatened and endangered species listings and de-listing and critical habitat proposals as reported in the Federal Register and suggest appropriate action.*
 - *Keep abreast of legislative proposals and oversight hearings and recommend Association involvement.*
 - *Maintain active liaison with appropriate federal agency offices, the conservation community, states and regional associations.*
 - *Serve as the subject matter and support group on endangered species that are covered by CITES or other international arrangements.*
 - *Subcommittees and Working Groups: ESA and Climate Change Working Group*
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